

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
From the December 2011 Meeting

Planning Applications: there was just one application for the Councillors to consider at this meeting: HOUSE/MAL/11/00989 Two Square, St Stephens Road – double garage and open car port and stores. Whilst this application went against Cold Norton Parish Council's planning policy, the majority of the Councillors agreed that because of the special location of this property and the character of the house that an exception to the policy be allowed on this occasion and therefore 'no objections' should be advised to Maldon District Council in regards to this application. Councillor Philip Wakeling requested that his objection to the application be recorded in the minutes.

Planning Decisions: there were five decisions from MDC relating to Cold Norton: FUL/MAL/11/00806 Lower Burnham Road, North Fambridge - Three areas of permanent road widening at two junctions at the intersection of Lower Burnham Road and Fambridge Road between North Fambridge and Cold Norton. The works will result in a change of use from residential and agricultural land to form new highway land. These works are to facilitate access for abnormal load deliveries such as turbine blades to the proposed wind farm at Turncole Farm – this had been refused by Maldon District Council (The Parish Council had no objections to this application). HOUSE/MAL/11/00805 Wold House, Latchingdon Road - single storey extension to the front – Maldon District Council approved this application (The Parish Council had no objections to this application). FUL/MAL/11/00741 White Acres, Crown Road – one 4 bed bungalow with basement and one 5 bed bungalow with basement – this application was approved by Maldon District Council (The Parish Council had no objections to this application). HOUSE/MAL/11/00813 2 Green Trees Avenue – two storey side and rear extension. Single storey side extension and conversion of garage – Maldon District Council had approved this application (The Parish Council had no objections to this application). FUL/MAL/11/00701 Little Canneys, Stow Road – proposed new stables and garages building (providing 3 garages) – this application was refused by Maldon District Council (The Parish Council had objected to this application).

Winter Salt Bag Scheme: The Parish Council is participating in this ECC scheme and the salt has now been delivered. Cllr Charles Litscher and the Clerk are coordinating this scheme. Thank you to all those who have offered their help. If you would like to be added to the list of volunteers please contact the Clerk.

Neighbourhood Meeting: Prior to this Parish Council meeting at 7pm there had been a Neighbourhood Meeting (formerly called NAP Meeting – Neighbourhood Action Panel) for the Purleigh District – the purpose of these meeting which are for all residents at which the Police are present to listen to and provide assistance to any problems or concerns residents have relating to traffic, noise or neighbour or youth nuisance, anti-social behaviour, violence or any other crime issues. There were no residents from Cold Norton present at this session, but Parish Councillors Les Barclay and Stewart Rivers attended along with Cllr Sue White, District Councillor for the Purleigh District were in attendance, together with the Parish Clerk for Cold Norton and residents from Althorne, North Fambridge and Purleigh. PC Alan Bowen chaired the meeting.

At the Parish Council Meeting Cllr Les Barclay summarised the topics covered at the Neighbourhood Meeting, including crime figures (generally down from same period last year – but residents reminded to lock up securely homes and cars), cold calling (residents encouraged to call the police if concerned), dog fouling (Clerk had reported problems in village near school and on footpaths – MDC Rangers to be approached regarding giving out fine tickets for this offence), parking at Purleigh School, Speed Watch (Councillors to discuss setting this up at the February PC meeting) and change to Police organisation/boundaries which will mean a 10% increase in neighbourhood policing. The priorities agreed from this Neighbourhood Meeting were vandalism and speeding in the village.

How Healthcare is Changing: On behalf of the Parish Council Cllr Stewart Rivers had attended an 'Open Talk' event on this subject and duly reported back to the Council: in January 2012 the Government will present the new Health & Social Care Bill - if approved it will change how the Health Service will be delivered in the future: clinicians and other health care providers will focus on how primary health care is delivered in their communities; Public Health activities will be transferred from the NHS to Essex CC. Planning/delivery for Essex outlined, including providing better care and treatment for older people those with complex health needs, introduction of modern technology in GP practices and similar locations, and preventative measures such as more health checks and healthy living programmes.

Saturday Garden Waste Collections: whilst this is one of the services that that has been axed as part of MDC's budget cuts for the financial year 2012 -2013 the Parish Council was asked to complete a questionnaire as MDC had been asked by some Parish Councils to reconsider the future of this service. Whilst according to data provided by MDC this service is not widely used by Cold Norton residents the Councillors appreciated that for those who do make use of the service that it is very important and therefore has indicated its support for the continuation/reintroduction of this service.

Village Survey: Draft copies of the report incorporating all the data from the questionnaires were distributed to Members for consideration.

Precept for 2012 – 2013: Councillors considered the figures/budgets prepared by the Clerk; decision will be made at January meeting.

Parish Council Meetings: Scheduled or provisionally scheduled for 2012:
Wednesdays: 11th January, 8th February, 7th March, 4th April, 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November, 5th December. Meetings start at 8 pm in The Norton Meeting Room at the Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly welcomed to hear the proceedings and to speak during the time set aside for that purpose.

To contact the Parish Council: please write to: The Parish Clerk (Maria Dyer), at Exordium, 30b Latchingdon Road, Cold Norton, Chelmsford, Essex. CM3 6JG. E-Mail to mariadyer30@yahoo.co.uk or phone (Monday to Friday before 5 pm please) 01621 829566.